

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-04

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DRAFTED BY: ARA/CEN/CR/JGSULLIVAN:RMC

APPROVED BY: ARA/CEN DAVID LAZAR

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 208155 ACTION STATE GUATEMALA
MANAGUA MEXICO PANAMA SAN JOSE SAN SALVADOR INFO BELIZE
CANBERRA PORT AU PRINCE SANTO DOMINGO WELLINGTON DATED
9/20/74.

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GUATEMALA FOR ROCAP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:EAGR

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR CONSULTATION ON MEAT TRADE

REF: SAN SALVADOR 3654, MEXICO 7835, STATE 176665

1. OAS SECRETARIAT RECEIVED TELEGRAM SEPT. 18 FROM GOM
FINANCE MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY RAMON BETETA (AS SPOKESMAN
FOR SEPT. 9 MEXICO CITY MEETING OF MEXICAN/CENTRAL AMERICAN
MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE) REQUESTING MEETING OF CONSULTATION
OF THE OAS SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION AND NEGOTIA-
TION (SCCN). MEETING REQUESTED ON URGENT BASIS FOR SEPTEMBER
23-24 TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS OF INTERNATIONAL MEAT TRADE,
PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF FORTHCOMING AD HOC INTER-GOVERNMENTAL
MEETING ON MEAT BEING HOSTED BY AUSTRALIA. WHEN OAS SECRE-
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TARIAT INFORMED GOM THAT AUSTRALIAN MEETING HAD BEEN POST-

PONED FROM SEPT. 26 TO OCT. 15, GOM AGREED TO CALL FOR SCCN MEETING ON SEPT. 30 INSTEAD OF SEPT. 23.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT MEXICAN/CENTRAL AMERICANS ARE OPERATING UNDER ASSUMPTION THAT THEY ARE NOT BEING INVITED TO AUSTRALIAN MEETING AND THUS WISH TO CONVEY TO US THEIR TRADE INTERESTS IN SCCN PRIOR TO OUR ATTENDANCE AT AUSTRALIAN-SPONSORED MEETING. MEXICAN/CENTRAL AMERICAN ASSUMPTION THAT THEY WILL NOT BE INVITED BY AUSTRALIA IS PREMATURE IN OUR VIEW. USG SUPPORTS REPRESENTATION OF MEXICO/CENTRAL AMERICA BY ONE DELEGATION AND HAS SO INDICATED TO GOA. FOR US SUPPORT TO BE MOST EFFECTIVE, IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR MEXICANS AND CENTRAL AMERICANS TO DECIDE SOONEST ON UNIFIED DELEGATION (PRESUMABLY CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES, BUT WITH ONLY ONE SPOKESMAN).

3. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE RAISE SUBJECT OF AUSTRALIAN MEETING WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS, INDICATE THAT WE REMAIN WILLING TO INSIST ON AUSTRALIA'S INVITING REPRESENTATION FROM MEXICO/CENTRALAMERICA/PANAMA IF THESE COUNTRIES ARE ABLE TO AGREE ON A UNIFIED DELEGATION. REQUEST THAT USG BE ADVISED ON FIRM AND OFFICIAL BASIS WHETHER AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED. US WILL RAISE ISSUE WITH AUSTRALIANS UPON RECEIPT OF FIRM ASSURANCE THAT MEXICANS/CENTRAL AMERICANS ARE ABLE TO AGREE TO UNIFIED DELEGATION.
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